

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air a journalistically questionable and politically slanted program days before the election appears to be a prohibited campaign donation; calling it a news program does not make it so, and the requirement of airing opposing viewpoints should be observed. We all know what's at stake here and we also know equally well what the time scale is. A decent respect for the principles of our democracy dictate that some meaningful action be taken.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. It is not in the public interest when there is no balance of viewpoints.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. This is an issue that many fair-minded citizens care about deeply no matter what their political position. Please factor this issue into future actions and regulatory discussion. Thank you.